

NEW YORK HERALD.

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EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC, Irving place.—Italian Opera—
Alfredo.

NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway.—Lear.

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway.—Lost and Won.

WINTER GARDEN, Broadway.—Lear—TODOLIN.

LAURA KENNEDY'S THEATRE, Broadway.—The

BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—Castle of Formosa—
Ragou—The Secret.

BARNUM'S AMERICAN MUSEUM, Broadway.—Museum

WARRIOR, COR. N. Y. ST. & 4TH ST.—Theater

WOOD'S MINSTREL HALL, 425 Broadway.—Theater

THE NEW IDEA, 425 Broadway.—Songs, Burlesques,

AMERICAN THEATRE, No. 444 Broadway.—Ballets,

PARISIAN CABINET OF WONDERS, 505 Broadway.—

ROOLEY'S OPERA HOUSE, Brooklyn.—Theater

New York, Monday, May 4, 1863.

THE SITUATION.

Rumors of the most exciting and variable

character relative to the operations of General

Hooker's army in Virginia were afloat in the city

yesterday. It is extremely probable that a battle

was commenced between the contending forces of

Hooker and Lee on Saturday morning, as heavy

canonading was heard on the left of General

Hooker's line about that time. On the right the

firing was so frequent and so heavy.

The telegraph being entirely employed for the use of

the army for the past few days, this report of a

general action, based upon the sound of cannonading,

is the only reliable intelligence we have, except

that which reaches us by mail.

Our army correspondence to-day contains a

most elaborate and interesting account of the for-

ward movement of the army, the crossing of the

fords and the brisk skirmishing which accom-

panied the advance of the troops to Chancellors-

ville. A map of the scene of action shows the po-

sitions which the different corps assumed in their

march, and all the leading points in the region of

country over which our troops are now pushing

forward. The army is said to be in the finest

spirits. General Hooker issued an address to

them at Chancellorsville thanking them for their

gallantry. We append to our news to-day a list

of the casualties, among which is the death of

Lieutenant Colonel McVicar, of the Sixth New

York cavalry, a brave officer, who was killed

while charging the enemy.

The Wheeling and Baltimore papers confirm the

news from Western Virginia of the late rebel raid

on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, the occupa-

tion of Morgantown by the rebels in large force,

and the depredations they committed in that lo-

cality. On Friday General Mulligan had been

joined by General Kenley with reinforcements, at

Grafton. General Kelly sends an official report of

the fight at Greenleaf Gap on the 24th ult., in

which Captain Wallace, with a small force of the

Twenty-third Illinois (Irish regiment), successfully

resisted the passage of a superior force of the

enemy.

The steamer George Cromwell, from New Or-

leans, with dates to the 25th ult., brings the im-

portant intelligence that General Banks had taken

possession of Alexandria, Louisiana, a town situ-

ated near the head of navigation on the Red river,

thus cutting off the rebel supplies by that water

highway. An expedition to Pearl river, for the

purpose of capturing several rebel steamers and

schooners concealed there proved entirely suc-

cessful. The steamer A. G. Brown, loaded with

cotton, turpentine and rosin, was taken twelve

miles above Gainesville, Mississippi, which place

our troops had previously occupied. The schooner

George Washington, similarly laden, was also

secured, and three others, found in Black Bayou,

were destroyed. Since the occupation of the At-

tahas country by our troops, the people are

locking eagerly to take the oath of allegiance to

the United States government and claim the pro-

tection of its flag.

Our army at Suffolk continues to be actively oc-

cupied. Yesterday morning at nine o'clock Gen.

Peck sent a force of infantry, cavalry and artillery

across the Nanamond river on a reconnaissance.

When two miles out they charged upon and took

the enemy's rifle pits and some prisoners. Our

loss was small, and the enemy's much greater.

Skirmishing had been kept up all day.

A despatch from Memphis, dated on Thursday,

says the Jackson (Miss.) Appeal of the 24th ult.,

reported a cavalry expedition of our troops in

Central Mississippi, threatening Columbus and Gre-

nada, which, it says, exceeds in daring and bold-

ness all former raids.

Our only news from the Mississippi comes from

the Richmond papers of the 30th ult., which state

that Jackson, Tenn., had been abandoned by the

Union troops, and that two barges and a flat boat

had run the fire of the rebel batteries at Vicks-

burg, on the night of the 26th, in safety.

The rebel steamer Cornelia arrived at Bermuda

on the 20th ult. from Wilmington, N. C. This is

the fifth voyage of the Cornelia to and from the

rebel States. The General Lee was nearly ready

to sail for Charleston.

By the arrival of the French transport Allier

at this port yesterday from Vera Cruz, we re-

ceive intelligence from Mexico to the 22d ult., stat-

ing that the French positively occupied half the

city of Puebla. This, however, is not news, for we

were informed of the fact repeatedly before. There

is no doubt, we suppose, about the occupation of

a portion of Puebla by the French. The news

brought by the Allier denies that the French army

was defeated, as reported.

RICKLETS NEWS.

Fourteen hundred bales of cotton arrived at

Memphis during the week ending on the 25th ult.

A new channel has been discovered in the Hud-

son river, whereby the obstructions at Coeymans's

can be avoided. The new channel will contain

nearly six feet at low water. It is on the West

side of the river, and twenty years ago was the

main channel.

The annual anniversary of the Board of For-

eign Missions of the Presbyterian church was ce-

lebrated last evening in Dr. McElroy's church,

corner of Fourteenth street and Sixth avenue.

The financial affairs of the Board are in a satis-

factory condition, the treasury being free from debt,

although the operations of the society had been

somewhat restricted to reach that result. The re-

ceipts during the last year had been \$188,458 93;

expenditures, \$187,169 23; and after paying off a

small balance from last year, there remains in the

treasury the sum of \$354 98. The sermon was

preached by Professor Shedd, and set forth the

scheme of theological and practical Christianity, as

preached to the Gentiles by the Apostle St. Paul.

Thomas Murphy, the man who, as alleged, was

shot by policeman Sands on the 22d of last month,

died at St. Vincent's Hospital on Saturday evening

last. Coroner Wilkey yesterday empaneled a jury

at Jefferson Market Police Court, and proceeded

to investigate the affair. After the testimony of

several witnesses had been taken the case was

given to the jury, who, after deliberation, rendered

a verdict that Murphy died from the effects of

the wound inflicted by Sands, who was then locked

up to await the action of the grand jury.

The stock market was active on Saturday, but in

the morning there was a slight reaction in the leading

speculative shares. In the afternoon the market was

recovered, and the business of the day closed with

a rising tendency. Gold was dull, and closed about

160. Exchange fluctuated between 150 and 160, closing

about 160. Money was active, but in good supply at

5 per cent on call. General business in merchandise

showed a tendency to revive.

The cotton market was very dull on Saturday, mid-

dling closing heavily at 65 1/2c. Flour fell off 5c. to 110c.

and wheat, oats and corn were cheaper, but the demand

was limited. Sales of whiskey were quiet, and in gro-

ceries transactions were restricted, yet prices were quoted

steady. There was more doing in refined petroleum, for

immediate and forward delivery, especially the latter,

at very full rates. Flax attracted considerable attention,

and was on the advance. May was plenty and in de-

mand. Yallow was in request at about former figures.

Other commodities were moderately inquired for. The

freight market was depressed.

Latest from the Rappahannock—Reports

of a Great Battle.

Our latest intelligence from the Rappahannock

is that on Saturday morning last, between

eight and ten o'clock, a heavy cannonading

was in progress on the extreme left of General

Hooker's line, below Fredericksburg, simultane-

ously with a lighter cannonading on his

right, above and beyond the town, on the en-

emy's left flank, from which the inevitable

conclusions are that the rebels, in great force, are

still on the ground, and that a general battle

had begun.

Since the commencement of General Hooker's

advance the telegraph at Falmouth has been

monopolized by him and the government, so

that our latest reports from the field are neces-

sarily by mail. Through this channel we shall

probably receive information this morning,

direct from the army, down to

Saturday evening. In the meantime, from

the facts before us, we are left to

conjecture the events that have filled up the

important interval of the last two days. The

city yesterday was full of absurd rumors of de-

feat and disaster, which we hope will be com-

pletely dispelled by official intelligence to-day

of the greatest achievement of the war.

On Thursday last, in his general order of the

day, General Hooker announced to his army

that the operations of the preceding three days

had "determined that the enemy must either

ingloriously fly or come out from behind his

defences and give us battle on our own ground,

where certain destruction awaits him." From

this we are assured of two things—first, that the

rebels in force were still behind their intrench-

ments, and, secondly, that the only doubt in the

mind of General Hooker was whether they

would accept the issue of a battle or precipi-

tately retreat. Nor do we yet know that they

have risked a general battle; for the

cannonading of Saturday morning, on both

sides, may have been only to feel the enemy's

positions. We still adhere to our theory of a

rebel evacuation, and think it likely that, as

at Antietam, it may have been effected under

cover of the night; for, considering the num-

bers of the rebel forces engaged elsewhere,

East and West, we believe it simply impos-

sible that General Lee could muster an army

capable of standing five hours outside of his works

before the powerful army of General Hooker.

Nor had Lee any choice except to come out

from his intrenchments or consent to have his

communication with Richmond completely cut

off.

With the conclusion, therefore, that the rebel

army has retreated, or has been beaten, or is

held so tightly in the grasp of General Hooker's

flank movement that it cannot escape a decisive

defeat, we await the definite and satisfactory

news which we expect to-day.

THE RADICAL PRESS AND GENERAL McCLELLAN.

—One of the radical journals has at last

published General McClellan's report. Why

has not Massa Greeley the candor to follow

the example of his contemporary? It is never

too late to turn to honest ways. He has given

General Hooker's testimony before the Com-

mittee on the Conduct of the War and many

other matters not favorable to the late com-

mandant of the army. Let him now publish

General McClellan's statement. Fair play is a

jewel.

Musical.

MAHETZ'S SECOND OPERATIC SEASON.

To-night Mr. Mahetzel commences a second opera-

tic season, which promises to be most brilliant and

attractive. An opera never performed in America will

be given this evening—"Aroldo," by Verdi. In this

great work, the plot of which we have already de-

scribed, the favorite tenor, has a role enabling him

to make the best use of his magnificent voice, and

affording ample scope for his unrivalled acting. We are

assured that during this season Mahetzel will produce

other novelties, which, like "Aroldo," will be put

on the stage with that careful attention to accom-

paniment displayed by the present management, and

which has secured for the Mahetzel troupe

the most brilliant success.

As the sale of season tickets and reserved seats

has been very great, there will be a most brilliant

audience to-night at the Academy of Music.

Some evenings since Mr. Mass gave a concert at

the Lafayette House which was attended—so says the artist—

by crowds of the fashionable. He avers that the

joviality upon this occasion was of fabulous value, and

further says that the applause bestowed upon his

realized performance was overwhelming. We shall give the

names of the artists who assisted upon this occasion

when we shall have discovered them. This concert will

form an epoch—in the estimation of the artist.

Obituary.

We learn the remains of the late Lieutenant Colonel

NAMES of the Fourth New York cavalry have been

consigned (on embalmed) from Washington, and await the

disposition of his mother, in England. Lieutenant

NAMES was formerly a distinguished and beloved officer

in the Ninth New York cavalry, and was killed in

New York City by the late General Lee's army

while on duty in the city. He was a devoted

husband and father, and his death was a great

loss to his family. His remains will be conveyed

to his home in England, and will be buried in

the family vault. His death was a great

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